



St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

402 S. Kirkland (River Road) • P.O. Box 248
Brusly, LA 70719

Parish Office: (225) 749-2189 • Christian Formation Office: (225) 749-3387
Parish Fax: (225) 749-1921 • Website: sjb-brusly.com

Parish Staff

Rev. Matthew P. Lorrain, *Pastor*
Sammy Collura, *Permanent Deacon*
Julie Ginther Cilano, *Christian Formation*
Carolyn Dupuy, *Bookkeeper*
Pat Durbin, *Parish Secretary*
Karen Lemoine, *Christian Formation*
Larry Durbin, *Maintenance Supervisor*
Richard Rabalais, *Maintenance*
Celeste Veillon, *Music Director*

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 7:30, 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 8:00 a.m.
Friday 8:00 a.m., with Adoration
until 11:30 a.m.
First Saturday of the month only 8:00 a.m.

Reconciliation

Saturday 3:30–4:15 p.m.; Tuesday thru
Friday (7:40 am) or by appointment

Baptism

Celebrated at weekend Masses. Parents
should call the office early to enroll in our
baptismal preparation program. Parents
should be registered and actively practicing
the faith.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

Inquiries – Call the Parish Office

Marriage

Contact the pastor at least 6 months prior to
proposed wedding date. Preparation program
is required. Couples should be actively
practicing their faith.

Care of the Sick

Emergency calls answered immediately, if
possible. Communion calls to homebound
and hospitals weekly by request. Please
notify the office if someone is homebound.

Christian Burial

Family should contact the pastor to begin
funeral arrangements.

Prayer Line

Call Judy Thousand (749-9257) or the
Parish office.

Office Hours

Monday–Friday 8:30–4:30
Office closed for lunch 12:30–1:30

December 16, 2012



3rd Sunday of Advent

Holiday magazines are well known for providing quick, practical ideas for trimming the house, welcoming guests, and preparing enticing food. The suggestions that are offered are designed to help the host and hostess show off a stunning atmosphere without spending days and weeks preparing for a party or dinner that may only last an hour or two. Often everyday items are transformed with a swatch of fabric, a candle, or some evergreens. Ingenious cutting makes plain vegetables or ordinary hors d'oeuvres into holiday delights. The operative concepts in getting people to buy these idea books and read them are: quick, easy, and practical.

In the Gospel today, John the Baptist offers quick, easy, and practical ideas for those who would prepare for the coming of the Christ. As St. Luke tells us, people in his day were filled with expectation. John was pretty straightforward in what he thought they should do: If you have two coats, give one away to somebody who doesn't have one; be equitable in your dealings with others; don't push people around; don't lie about people. In modern parlance, we might say that John the Baptist was asking people to act justly in the world.

Unfortunately, today we don't often think of justice as quick, easy, or practical. Our understanding of justice is more often colored by the contemporary legal system than by the divine laws of the covenant that binds God and his people. There was a reciprocity and equanimity in the covenantal relationship. There were duties to be fulfilled on each side. John was asking that those who were filled with expectation for the coming of the Messiah would set themselves aright with one another so that God's covenant would find full expression in the relationships that bind people to God and to one another. Justice is really about leveling things out. And when you think about it, that is pretty easy. If you have more, then you share.

John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." - Lk 3:16

Dear Parishioners,

A beautiful church deserves equally beautiful Mass vestments and communion vessels, and we are fortunate to have a nice selection of all of the above here at St. John the Baptist. We are using our pewter chalices and ciboria for Advent but will soon switch back to the gold for Christmas. You may have noticed that we are also using a simple fabric cover for the book of the Gospels to further distinguish the tone of the different liturgical seasons.

I recently ordered three chasubles to complement our existing collection of Mass vestments. I was able to do so without breaking the budget by asking various parish organizations to help underwrite the cost. Our new Marian chasuble to be worn on feasts honoring the Blessed Virgin Mary was purchased with a gift from our Catholic Daughters. Our new red chasuble to be worn on Palm Sunday, Good Friday, Pentecost, and the feast days of martyrs was purchased with a gift from our Knights of Columbus. And finally, our new light green chasuble to help see us through the long period of ordinary time was purchased through the generosity of the Zippers.

Parish organizations like the Catholic Daughters, K.C.'s, and Zippers are visible expressions of the Church's charitable, fraternal, and evangelical ministry. They provide service to the local community and raise awareness of important national and global issues concerning our faith. We are blessed to have them so active in our parish and I am thankful for all of their contributions to our community.

Just as many of us put off Christmas shopping until the last minute so too many of us put off going to confession until the last minute. The time is now upon us if we want to celebrate Christ's birth with clean hearts and consciences. All of our neighboring parishes have celebrated their penance services. We are the last one on the schedule and our parish penance service begins at 7:00 p.m. this Tuesday, December 18. Fathers Angeles, Berggreen, and Milano are scheduled to assist us so please put aside any worries or excuses and come to confession before Christmas. (I will also be in the confessional next Saturday for the truly unreformed procrastinators.)

Dr. Chris Baglow, professor of dogmatic theology at Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans, will be here on Thursday night, December 20, to offer some good faith enrichment for the adults of our community. Dr. Baglow's presentation is entitled "Belief Under Assault: Rescuing Faith & Reason from Monstrous Mentalities." The evening begins with a wine and cheese reception at 6:00 p.m. and concludes at 7:30 p.m. and I encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity to hear our Catholic faith articulated by an outstanding speaker and theologian.

Our schedule of services for Christmas includes two Masses on Christmas Eve and two Masses on Christmas morning. The celebration begins on Christmas Eve with a choir concert at 3:15 p.m. followed by our 4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass. We then have a second Vigil Mass at 6:00 p.m. which includes a dramatization of the Gospel by our 4th & 5th graders. Masses on Christmas Day are at 7:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. (We will not have a midnight Mass this year.) I look forward to celebrating my first Christmas with all of you!

In Christ,
Father Matt



YEAR OF FAITH²⁰¹³

Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church Presents:

EVENINGS OF FAITH

Belief Under Assault: Rescuing Faith & Reason

from Monstrous Mentalities

Presenter: Dr. Chris Baglow

December 20, 2012

6:00-7:30pm, Activity Center

Wine and Cheese Reception

Adults Only

(Babysitting available upon request)



Next Baptismal Seminar

Tuesday, January 8, 2013 at 6:30 pm in
Classroom #5.

This class is mandatory for baptism of your
child. Call the Parish Office to register.

advent

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

St. John the Baptist

Tuesday, December 18 at 7:00 p.m.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Christmas Vigil—Monday, December 24th
4:00 p.m. & 6:00—p.m.

Christmas Concert

Brass/Angel Choir/Adult Choir
3:15 before 4:00 Vigil

Christmas Day—December 25th
7:30 a.m. & 9:00 a.m.

New Years Vigil—December 31st
4:30 p.m.

New Years Day—January 1st
9:00 a.m.

The Parish Office will be closed at noon on Tuesday, December 24th through Wednesday, December 26th and on December 31st & January 1st for New Years.

LIVING FAITH BOOKLETS FOR
JANUARY, FEBRUARY AND MARCH, 2013 ARE
IN. PICK UP YOUR COPY AT THE
PARISH OFFICE.

THANKS!

The Bereavement Committee wishes to thank Paula Wilbert for her recent donation in honor of her mother, Gloria Wilbert.

STEWARSHIP OF FINANCES

December 9, 2012

REGULAR:

230 Identified-----\$ 8,796.00

Loose Collection----- 1,238.00

TOTAL----- \$10,034.00

Retirement fund for Religious-- \$ 3,074.00

A VOCATION VIEW

Could God be calling you to be a priest or religious to announce the Good News to His People as John the Baptist did? If God is calling you, call or email Fr. Matt Dupre at 225-336.8778, mdupre@diobr.org.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS MEETING

The CDA meeting will be Monday, December 17th at 6:30 pm in the Activity Center Kitchen Area. We will be decorating and delivering Christmas fruit baskets to the homebound. Please bring Christmas cards. For more info, call Julie at 749-8260.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

- ⇒ K.C. Members Christmas Social will be held at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, December 19, 2012 in The Activity Center. Please RSVP to kofc10744@gmail.com or to Michael Vince at 225-620-6263 by December 14th to secure your spot!
- ⇒ High school seniors are reminded to submit their applications for the Knights of Columbus Catholic Youth Leadership Award (CYLA) to the church office by the January 15th deadline. Additional forms and instructions are available on the KC Website at www.kofc10744.org.
- ⇒ **November Calendar Winners:** Ross Laymon, Mel Whaley, Yusuf Atkins, Douglas LaBauve, Bruce Capone, Sarah Wade, Helene Blanchard, Betty Deville, Barry Maggio, David Dake, Fred Vollman, Richard & Martha Dugas, Harvey Cavaliere, Vicky Landry, Jocelyn Lamothe, Sydney Mabile, Jamie Whaley, K.C. Council #5352, Shelby P. Hebert, Marina Bourgois, J.D. LeJeune, Anthony Vitale, Dillion Stelly, Walter Lemoine, David Ducote, Heath Clouatre, Lou Delahaye, Eli & Colt St. Germain, Herd Schexnaildre, Stephanie Glynn



Readings for the Week of December 16, 2012

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| Sunday: | Zep 3:14-18a/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18 |
| Monday: | Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17 |
| Tuesday: | Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25 |
| Wednesday: | Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25 |
| Thursday: | Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38 |
| Friday: | Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Lk 1:39-45 |
| Saturday: | 1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56 |
| Next Sunday: | Mi 5:1-4a/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45 |

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2012-2013

Donna Badon
Maria Bertrand
Jamie Chustz, Vice-chairman
Deacon Sammy Collura
David Couvillon
Jerry Deshotel
Stacy Gauthreaux
Fr. Matt Lorrain
Wendy Parrish
Katie Roettger
Toni Tolar
David Toups, Chairman
John Windham, Secretary
Gerard "Jerry" Zimmerman



2013—25th & 50th Wedding Anniversary
Celebration

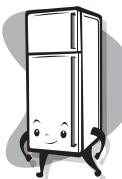
Sunday, February 24, 2013—3:00 pm

Sacred Heart Church—Baton Rouge

Be sure to call the parish office if you are celebrating your 25th, 50th or greater anniversary and want to attend.

BISHOP'S ANNUAL RESPECT LIFE RALLY

The Bishop's Respect Life Rally will take place on January 6, 2013, from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Main Auditorium of the Bishop Tracy Center, 1800 S. Acadian Thruway, Baton Rouge. Come celebrate life with the Diocese. Dr. Theresa Notare from the USCCB Secretariat for Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth, will be the keynote speaker. There will also be a Living Rosary for Life with the K.C. Honor Guard and a variety of information booths from local & regional organizations. Childcare will be available for children 7 years and younger during the keynote speech. Contact Danielle Van Haute at the Marriage and Family Life Office 225-242-0164 or dvanhaute@diobr.org for more information.



THANKS!

Youth Ministry sends out a big THANKS to Jim & Earline Guidry for donating a refrigerator for our new Youth Room!

BALM FOR THE SOUL

A new shipment of cookbooks is in for the Christmas holidays. The cookbooks have sold over 1100 copies since October 2011! The sale of these popular books benefits the SJB Bereavement Committee. It includes over 500 unique family favorite recipes. At \$15.00 per copy, they make great gifts! Contact Harold & Beverly Babin at 749-2027 or Margaret Canella at 749-2874 to get your copy.

